



Soprano Tica Giel unveils the DVD of her sold out concert “Danki”

On April 29, 2006, internationally renowned Arubian soprano Tica Giel performed in concert at the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad, and on Monday she launched the DVD containing fifteen of her favorite selections from that concert.

The DVD, titled “Danki” is sponsored by UNOCA, (Union Organisacio Cultural Arubano,) as was the concert, which was well attended. Tica, who studied voice, music theory, and education at the Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam, is a very popular performer in Aruba. She started her performance and teaching career in the Netherlands, and after earning recognition as an artist and establishing her claim to all-round professionalism in Europe, she returned to Aruba. She dedicates all her talent and energy to the musical life of the island community by teaching, developing educational methods and programs, conducting choruses, and performing both classical and popular music as soloist in a variety of ensembles she has brought together.

Last year’s concert was an amalgam of some of the best musicians and voices in Aruba, performing a diverse selection of classic and newly composed songs for the concert. During the launching of the DVD in the Epilicious Restaurant of Aruba’s EPI Hospitality School, Tica presented a gift copy to Jan Lanooij-de Cuba, one of the participating vocalists, and composer of the song “E Trupial Contento” (The Happy Trupial.) “E Trupial Contento” is one of the fifteen selections from Tica’s concert, along with a variety of classic and contemporary songs in Spanish, Papiamentu, and English that capture the spirit of Aruban music.

The concert was performed under the direction of Maestro Pepe Gonzalez, who also did a number of the musical arrangements for a wide range of pieces by various composers. Tica is the composer of “Mama Simbolo di Amor,” (Mother, Symbol of Love ;) a tribute to mothers everywhere.

Yolanda Richardson, representing UNOCA, welcomed the DVD on behalf of Aruba, and explained that it exemplified the kind of projects that showcase Aruba’s art, culture and talent that UNOCA funds. The DVD is available at the UNOCA offices adjacent to the Cas di Cultura and sells for 25 Arubian florins, (\$14.)